



Water Resources Division
Resource Management Directorate
Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
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January 22, 2018

Richard Dwyer
Licensing Administrator
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU, X0B 1J0

Your file - Votre référence
2BB-MEA1318

Our file - Notre référence
CIDM# 1208035

Re: Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's comments on Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. renewal application for water licence #2BB-MEA1318 – Meadowbank Project

Dear Mr. Dwyer,

Thank you for your December 13, 2017 invitation for technical review comments on the above referenced application.

The Water Resources Division of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) examined the application and the results of our review are provided in the enclosed memorandum for the Nunavut Water Board's consideration. Comments have been provided pursuant to INAC's mandated responsibilities under the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act* and the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act*.

INAC appreciates the opportunity to participate in this review. If there are any questions or concerns, please contact me at (819) 953-8988 or by e-mail at ian.parsons@canada.ca.

Sincerely,

Ian Parsons
Regional Coordinator

Technical Review Memorandum

To: Richard Dwyer, Licensing Administrator, Nunavut Water Board

From: Ian Parsons, Regional Coordinator, Water Resources Division, INAC

Date: January 22, 2018

Re: Review of Renewal Application for Type B Water Licence 2BB-MEA1318

Applicant: Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.
Project: Meadowbank
Region: Kivalliq

A. BACKGROUND

On December 13, 2017, the Nunavut Water Board (NWB or Board) provided notification of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. submission of a renewal application for Type B water licence 2BB-MEA1318 for the Meadowbank Project.

The 2BB-MEA1318 licence renewal for the Meadowbank Project is a routine renewal with no changes being sought or asked to the licence. The latest licence, which expires in 2018, allows for the use of up to 297 m³ of water per day and the deposit of waste. The undertaking licensed includes bulk sampling and exploration activities including drilling and geophysical surveys. The site is located approximately 80 km from Baker Lake and is access by a 110 km all weather road.

The NWB requested interested parties review the application and make representations by January 22, 2018.

B. RESULTS OF REVIEW

On behalf of INAC Water Resources, the following comments and recommendations are provided for the Board's consideration.

1. Water Use/Sources

Reference:

- Application for Water Licence Renewal – Meadowbank Project, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

Comment:

In reviewing this licence renewal and in conjunction with Agnico Eagle's recent new water licence application for pre-development work at its Whale Tail Pit Project (8BC-WTP), the licensee has indicated that water will be used for the 8BC licence (if approved) as well as this licence (2BB-MEA1318).

Recommendation:

Although INAC has no issue with the licensee carrying out the development of its project and the subsequent water use in this way, INAC would caution the applicant to keep very good records of its water use for its various purposes (domestic, dust suppression, drilling, etc.) in order to avoid exceeding water use limits. When using water for different purposes under different licences it may become very difficult to record and validate its water use.

2. Application and Amendments

Reference:

- Application for Water Licence Renewal – Meadowbank Project, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.

Comment:

We notice that many amendments (increase of camp with additional accommodations, installation and operation of additional Kodiak "Bionest" Wastewater Treatment System, construction of a gravel road between camp and quarries, etc.) have been completed since 2013.

Recommendation:

Therefore, we would expect the Licensee to clarify the information provided under Section 11 – Classification of Primary Undertaking (extent of drilling activities, fuel and gas transportation, municipal activities, etc.)

As well as having the Licensee provide us with the most updated compliance studies/reports with respect to all the major mining infrastructures and operations.